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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

**TO:** Donna Green  
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

**FROM:** Scott D. Malpede

**RE:** U.S. Patent Appln. No. 10/552,590  
 Docket No.: 00684.103077A

**FAX NO.:** (703) 308-4785

**DATE:** November 17, 2005                   **NO. OF PAGES:** 3  
*(including cover page)*

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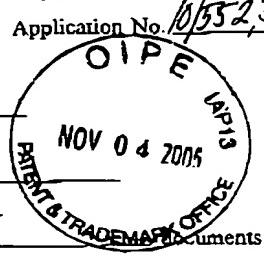
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Atty. Docket 1684-103077A  
Application No. 10532390

Sir:

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the accompanying:

- Response to Official Action \_\_\_\_\_  
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| <b>PETITION FOR EXPRESS ABANDONMENT TO AVOID PUBLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.138(c)</b><br><br>Fax the petition directly to the Pre-Grant Publication Division at (703) 305-8568<br>Or Mail the petition to:<br>Mail Stop Express Abandonment<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450 | Application Number     | 10/552,590               |
|  | Filing Date            | October 12, 2005         |
|  | First Named Inventor   | NORIYUKI SHIKINA, ET AL. |
|  | Art Unit               | Unassigned               |
|  | Examiner Name          | Unassigned               |
|  | Attorney Docket Number | 00684.103077A            |

**Petition for Express Abandonment to Avoid Publication under 37 CFR 1.138(c)**

I hereby petition to expressly abandon the above-identified application to avoid publication.

**Petition Fee – must be filed with petition to avoid delays in recognizing the petition.**

- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(h) to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.
- b.  Check in the amount of \$ 130.00 is enclosed.
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**NOTE:** A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), section 711.01. In addition, the paper will not stop publication of the application unless a petition under 37 CFR 1.138(c) is recognized and acted on by the Pre-Grant Publication Division in sufficient time to avoid publication (e.g., more than four (4) weeks prior to the projected publication date).

I am the:  applicant. assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96) attorney or agent of record. Registration Number 32,533November 4, 2005  
DateSCOTT D. MALPEDE  
Typed or printed name(202) 530-1010  
Telephone Number

Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

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